

WELLS COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2022

Board members present:

Mike Mossburg
Leon Berning
Jon Oman
Andy Stoller
Bruce Stinson

Lewis Brown, RSD Superintendent
Nate Rumschlag, County Engineer
Mark Burry, Attorney
Jay, Choice One Engineering

Call to Order

Mike called the meeting to order with the pledge and prayer by Andy.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes were presented to the board. Nate commented he would have the minutes ready for the April board meeting from both of these meetings.

Review of Claims and Account Reconciliation

Review of claims prepared by Trent and reviewed by Leon for the board. The report showed total of 4 checks for a total of \$1,095.50 for approval. Claims included payments to BCS, Jon Langle, Barnes and Thornburg, & Beechwood.

Motion to approve the claims by Bruce and 2nd by Andy. Motion carried 5-0.

USDA

Liz Stanely out of the Columbia City office of the USDA is in charge of the single-family grant or loan assistance grants. She outlined the grant program for the board and how it can impact families of 62 or over residents and the applicant must be in the home requesting the assistance.

She provided the board and Lewis with copies of the grant application. The grant is up to \$10,000 and loans are up to \$40,000 with a 1% interest rate and a 20-year term.

Grant could be due back to the USDA if the homeowner sells the home before a 3-year mark after the grant.

The grant review takes about 30-days.

There is no credit checks for the grant, but the loan has a minimum 620 credit score.

If an applicant has no credit history, USDA will look at your utility history. There is no assistance for the monthly bill.

Board- how do you handle poor credit?

Very poor credit will not qualify for a loan.

For pricing of the connection, the owner is asked to get 2 quotes for the installation for USDA review.

Leon – so to clarify, this is for homeowners 62 and over with low-income needs.

Liz offered to provide a link to the board to put on the website for customers.

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Superintendent Report

Lewis is working on the easements for both Liberty and Murray. The \$95/month bill went out.

Murray grinders are set and the wiring is set to be done on April 8th.

Liberty Center collection and pumping is done. To do yet includes the bore under Rock Creek, connection at Bluffton, the 66 grinders for Liberty Center and the Ferguson pump start-up.

There are 47 grinders in Murray and 66 in Liberty Center.

Engineering Reports

Jay came to present for Ryan.

Jay presented the VTF pay applications for:

LC for \$785,203

Murray for \$475,041

Motion to approve the pay applications by Bruce. Motion 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0

Jay presented the bid tab for Craigville with VTF as the apparent low bidder.

Jay presented a notice of award, provisional to closing and issued awaiting the April pre-closing.

Motion to approve the conditional notice of award by Andrew, motion was 2nd by Bruce. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Comments

Mark presented SRF disbursement requests:

#36 – Murray payment for \$475,041

#37 – Liberty Center payment for \$785,203

Motion to approve by Bruce, 2nd by Leon. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark then reviewed the Sewer Use Ordinance 2022-01. Motion to adopt by Jon, 2nd by Bruce. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark presented a draft service area connection agreement for Craigville. Includes 220 connections and a buy-in fee of \$195,478 and a monthly service charge of \$891, and a treatment fee of now \$3.50/1,000 gal.

Motion to approve pending any corrections by Andy, 2nd by Bruce. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Comments

Board discussed the informational meeting scheduled for next Tuesday.

Commissioners need to pass a sub-recipient agreement to the RSD.

SRF swapped the Wells SWIF grant into a forgivable BAN. The break of BAN versus the \$2 million in ARPA repayment is helpful.

The board then reviewed the letter prepared by Ryan Bennett regarding Indiana HB 1245 and exemptions.

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Mark then reviewed the letter and current law versus the new law and how it affects exemptions. Mark then discussed how this will impact RSD communications with the citizens.

VTF Construction

Aaron from VTF gave a report to the board on the status of the project.

Main disconnect, control panels, and generators are way behind on delivery. Electrical the end of next week in Murray. Ferguson startup will begin after that.

He expects to be done the 2nd week of April in Murray.

Liberty Center still has 65 grinders to set and thinks about 30 days for services. The lift station is to be tested the end of April.

He wants to schedule a pavement walk-thru the second week of April.

Brooks is to be paving the 3rd week of April and last week of April into May for start.

Murray is 2 weeks from substantial and Liberty is 6 weeks from substantial. Restoration will start even before the close of the project.

Aaron – VTF used to do 6-10 days on projects, but before we finished 2017 we lost all of our crews.

Lewis – the public wants us to punish VTF.

Aaron – we have materials that take forever to get.

Lewis – even then we still have positive feedback on the crews interaction.

Aaron asked for 40 day extension due to electrical equipment info.

Bruce made a motion to extend VTFs completion 40 days. Motion was 2nd by Jon. Motion carried 5-0.

This sets the new completion as May 11th.

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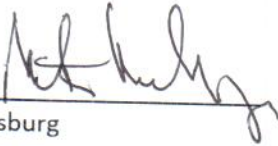
Public Comments

No public comments

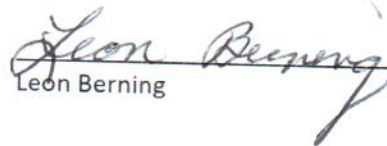
Motion to adjourn – Bruce, motion 2nd by Andy. Meeting adjourned. 5-0

Next meeting will be a board meeting proposed for April 11th, 2022, at the regular time.

NR



Mike Mossburg

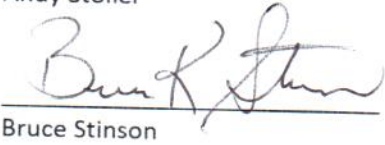


Leon Berning



Andy Stoller

Jon Oman



Bruce Stinson